- The two sides agreed to the convening of the Joint Rivers Commission in Dhaka at a mutually convenient time.
- The two sides agreed that the revised Trade Agreement be signed at an early date.
- The two sides agreed that the bilateral Joint Working Group on Trade, para-tariff and non-tariff barriers and on customs matters should meet by August, 2005.
- It was agreed to explore the possibility of commencing Dhaka-Guwahati, Dhaka-Shillong, Dhaka-Siliguri bus services.
- The two sides agreed to carry forward discussions relating to the tri-nation gas pipeline.
- The two sides agreed to increase cooperation in the fields of Agriculture and Science and Technology.

(b) The Ministry of External Affairs has initiated action on the above decisions with the concerned Ministries/departments and agencies in the Government of India.

Agreements with USA during Prime Minister's visit

†1161. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of discussions took place and agreements signed during Prime Minister's visit to America;

(b) whether America has made a promise to recognize India as a nuclear power, to supply nuclear fuel, to support Indian claim for permanent seat in U.N. Security Council, and not to interfere in Pakistan issue;

(c) the overall impact of the agreement signed during this visit on Indo-American and Indo-Pak-American relations; and

(d) whether the President, Mr. Bush has accepted an invitation for visiting India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) Prime Minister visited the United States at the invitation of President Bush from 17-20 July, 2005. The agenda for discussions included strengthening of bilateral relations,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

building on common values and interests, enhancing cooperation for the economy, for energy and environment, for democracy and development, for non-proliferation and security and for high technology, space and civilian nuclear energy. Regional and global issues of significance were also discussed. No agreements were signed during the visit.

(b) President Bush conveyed to the Prime Minister that he will work to achieve full civil nuclear energy cooperation with India, adjusting US laws and policies and international regimes, expeditiously considering fuel supplies for Tarapur and considering India's participation in the ITER fusion project and the Generation IV advanced reactors programme. India's candidature for permanent membership of the U.N. Security Council was taken up during the talks. President Bush expressed the view that international institutions are going to have to adapt to reflect India's central and growing role. On India-Pakistan relations, the President declared that it was for the two countries to discuss and resolve their problems.

(c) The impact of the discussions and undestandings on Indo-US relations was positive. The visit has contributed to an enhancement of India's position in the global arena and to a better understanding of the situation in the Indian sub-continent.

(d) President Bush has accepted an invitation from the Prime Minister to visit India in 2006.

Change in US policy towards India

1162. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether prior to Prime Minister's recent visit to the United States, Indian Foreign Secretary and Scientist Advisor to PM had visited the U.S. in May, 2005 for exploring prospects of reviving the Indo-U.S. atomic energy cooperation between the two countries;

(b) if so, the details of discussions held between the leaders of two countries and outcome thereof;

(c) whether India finds any major change in the U.S. policy of sharing with us nuclear power need, developing of new sources of energy efficiency nuclear technology etc.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?